

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 16 | Humidity 65%

Mainly clear sky. Misty morning

Sensex 57,808

Nifty 17,266

Gold 48,290

Silver 62,003

Dollar 74.72

Euro 85.29

GBP 101.26

SCHOOL OF LIFE



PAGE 2

EVERY ROSE HAS ITS THORN



PAGE 4

BBMP directive coming in way of road restoration, says BWSSB about leaking water pipelines across Bengaluru

THE DIG CITY

Civic bodies 'at loggerheads' over road repair

KAUSHIK JN

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In October 2021, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) decided to hold the agency that digs roads up responsible for restoring them after works are completed.

Now, a few months past, the dissonance between the Palike and other agencies over the new rule is manifesting.

As many areas report water leaks in the pipes laid by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), repair seems far-fetched. Whilst thousands of litres of drinking water goes down the drain, civic agencies are engaged in a blame game of sorts.

Residents and ward committee members complained the issue was not addressed even after raising it several times during committee meetings in the past one week. They said despite the looming water crisis, thousands of litres of drinking water was wasted last week.

"It's like watching a tennis match between the BBMP and BWSSB. Thousands of litres of water was being wasted. The longer the water pours out, the road gets weaker. Despite having representatives from both the agencies in meetings, the problem persisted," said Priya



"Longer the water pours out, the road gets weaker. Despite having representatives from both agencies in meetings, problem persisted"

— Priya Chetty Rajagopal, ward committee member, Vasanth Nagar

Chetty Rajagopal, ward committee member of Vasanth Nagar, speaking about water leakage in front of Mount Carmel college. However, BWSSB initiated repair works on the stretch on Tuesday,

BM's told.

Balekundari Junction on Queen's Road is yet another spot facing the same issue.

"The entire junction and stretch were completed under

the Smart City project. However, water leakage started a week ago. We immediately sent the picture of the leakage to the area in charge; but, we received a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 >>

Being Humane

Activists call for sensitisation of law enforcement personnel on what constitutes cruelty to animals



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As police are not sensitised enough on Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) guidelines, animal carers are at the receiving end for raising voice for the voiceless, said animal activists.

In August 2020, Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) wrote to chief secretaries and state police chiefs, including to Karnataka, to conduct awareness programmes. They were directed to organise mandatory awareness sessions on animal welfare laws for police personnel, and as envisaged by the Ministry of Home Affairs' direction, told to include animal welfare laws in the police academy curriculum.

The circular mentioned the charges under sections 3 and 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act that needs to be invoked on offender/s and register FIRs as necessary so that enforcement becomes a deterrent to the infliction of cruelty on animals; activists, meanwhile, alleged the circular has not reached police stations.

"Police stations maintain crime charts with types of crimes and cases registered. However, there is no column for cases booked under the PCA Act," said activist Arun Prasad.

Another activist and SPCA member Harish KB said police should come forward

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

PIC FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Sacred Sentinels

KYNKYN.com's latest virtual exhibition, Sacred Sentinels, features Hyderabad-based artist Bhaskar Rao Botcha's looming, moody treescapes. Trees are

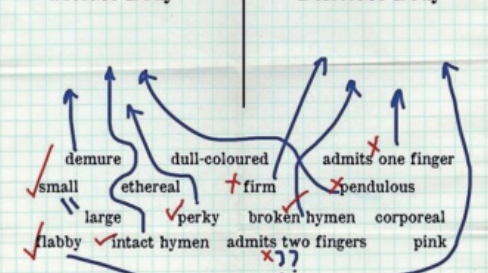


the central and recurring characters in Bhaskar Rao Botcha's strikingly atmospheric paintings. Drawing from memories, personal history, culture, folklore and a love for nature, Botcha's acrylics on canvas are beguiling reflections and meditations on the nature of trees. Sacred Sentinels, which is equal parts botanical and poetic, celebrates our deep affinity for trees and the ancient and timeless bond that we share with them. Where: KYNKYN.com; When: Till March 5

either of the two categories:

Florite Body

Deflorate Body



02 All about a woman's body

KathaSiyah, a theatre collective, is presenting 'The Amazing Flabby-Breasted Virgin & Other Sordid Tales' - a digital show - a performative archive on an interactive website. This is a playful, irreverent digital performance. This performance is part of an educational arts project on systemic issues in both medicine and education today. It plays with the myths and magical thinking that surround and define the non-masculine, non-heterosexual body. Inspired by the writings of a contemporary Indian feminist gynaecologist, it poses surreal and satirical questions about how women's bodies are taught, perceived and practiced within medical education in the urban Indian context.

Where: Online When: Till Feb 13, multiple slots
Tickets: insider.in

03 Bhangra, anyone?

A dance form which has had humble rural beginnings and is now recognised on a global level, Bhangra is popular



not only due to its cultural essence but also due to its fitness benefits. Sign up to burn calories in a fun way or to learn a new dance form or strengthen your Bhangra skills. Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar; When: Feb 13, 1 pm - 3 pm
Tickets: 9886294444

Classes back online as it's a no-show in schools

Private institutions say it's unfeasible to ply buses and open classrooms on account of poor physical attendance

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

While schools in Karnataka reopened a week ago to an encouraging response, many private institutions in the city have once again gone back to online mode of learning due to poor classroom attendance. Management of these private schools say that owing to poor attendance, it is logistically not possible to run offline classes or ply school buses. "We are functioning online. Although, even before the government passed the orders to open the schools a week ago, we had sent a circular to all the parents, informing them about offline classes to begin soon.

However, once the school reopened, there were hardly any student on the campus," said a spokesperson of a private school in the city. The schools say that they have decided to go online after speaking with parents and conducting surveys.

"Lesser than 15 per cent of the parents confirmed classroom attendance. Sessions for all the classes for the remaining months



A survey in a private school said that less than 15% of parents confirmed classroom attendance

of this academic year will be online except class X and XII. Even examinations for Class I to Class VIII will be online. However, examinations for class IX and XI as well as Sahodaya pre-board exams for class X and XII will be held offline. Term 2 board exams for class X and XII scheduled in the month of March-April will be held as per CBSE and state government directives," said the principal of a private school in South Bengaluru.

Some schools have reached out to the parents to decide the next course of action.

"We have sent another round of survey to understand parents' view. If we get more than 90 per cent parents saying yes to offline classes, we will get started.

Moreover, the students of class X and XII do not want to come as they are busy preparing for board examinations," said a representative of another city-based CBSE school. Yet another school in the Central Business District area that has been functioning only online has sent consent form to parents to get their views on upcoming final examinations.

"We have received a consent form from my son's school for the upcoming final examination. My son is in Class IX and the school management wants to understand if we prefer the final examination in online or offline mode," said Arul Dass Suresh, a parent, adding that looking at the current vaccination situation, he feels safer with

the online mode. However, the Association of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka has raised questions on the decision of these schools to conduct only online classes for the rest of this academic year.

"It is only some CBSE and ICSE schools in the city that are refusing to start offline classes for various reasons. This despite many parents willing to send their children for physical classes. When other schools are functioning, why are some schools shying away from conducting offline classes? Are they planning to have another academic year online?" asked D Shashi Kumar, Secretary of the Association of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka.

On vaccine worries in urban slums

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With limited research on vaccine hesitancy in urban slums, a study was conducted by experts to understand the reasons influencing Covid-19 vaccine confidence in four metro cities in India: Bengaluru, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi.

In Bengaluru 26.3 per cent of the participants showed that they were unable to register for the vaccine, which was one of the main factors. Since vaccine hesitancy carries out a negative image, the study done by experts from Bengaluru, Noida, Mumbai, New Delhi, Kolkata in the paper published in National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information, have used the word vaccine confidence instead of vaccine hesitancy.

Those experts involved from Bengaluru in the study are, Sathyanarayana Tamisetty, Giridhara R Babu, Biswamitra Sahu, Suresh Shapeti, Deepa Ravi, Eunice Lobo, all from



the Indian Institute of Public Health, Bengaluru.

The study adopted a mixed method approach during April-May 2021, during the peak of second wave and when the first dose of vaccination was rolled out in the state. Over 256 people were chosen from urban slums for the study, out of which, large part of it was in Bengaluru from the Vijayapuram slum with 142 participants.

In Bengaluru over 26.3 per cent showed

that the major reason that influenced vaccination acceptance was they were unable to register. While 13 per cent stated that they cannot spare a day from work and 10 per cent stated their unable to reach due to physical disability or health condition, while 14 per cent stated lack of supporting documents. A sum of 7.7 per cent said that they had dependency on others or family to make the decision to vaccinate and 5.7 per cent showed their dependence on others to register, while 4 per cent showed uncertainty of getting vaccine.

However, going by the total figures of four cities, 28.6 per cent showed complication of getting vaccinated and 27.7 per cent showed uncertainty of getting the vaccine, while 24.6 per cent showed fear of getting vaccinated.

"The findings indicate the need to plan and carry out specific result-oriented interventions using key findings such as effective risk communication, which caters to the community's apprehensions and building trust, and using existing technologies to reach target audiences," the paper concluded.

The endgame: Are we there yet?

Signs are good as while Chalavadipalya has 0 covid cases, many other wards are reporting just 1 case each

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With coronavirus on the ebb in the city, Chalavadipalya ward is moving towards becoming a covid free ward as it has scored zero covid case. Other wards such as Rayapura, Lakshmi Devi Nagar, Muneshwara Nagar, Padarayanapura, Sudhama Nagar, JJ Nagar and Bharati Nagar is reporting just one case each. Experts say that in days to come, even these wards are likely to score zero.

In keeping with this, Bellandur that used to report 500-plus cases a day is also seeing a decline with fewer than 250 cases a day. As of now, the maximum covid cases are being reported from Bellandur, Doddanekkundi, Varthur, Horamavu and Hagadur (which are reporting 100-plus cases in a day) while Begur, HSR Layout, New Thippansandra, Hoodi and Byatarayanapura are reporting cases between 70-100.

The trend is visible in the daily health bulletin as well. The covid score in Bengaluru on Tuesday was 2,139 cases while the State's tally was 4,452 (for the first time, the state's daily tally has fallen below 5,000). Positivity rate in the State was 5.01 per cent while it was 4.22 per cent in Bengaluru. The active cases in the city have dropped to



“We have written to the State Govt to release the 50 pc bed allocated for Covid patients. Following a government directive, we have set aside half of the beds since January 4 this year

29,000. However, deaths continue to be on the higher side with 17 dying of covid in Bengaluru (51 in the State). The number of active containment zones are also reducing. Currently, there are 61 containment zones in the City. Maximum number of containment zones are in Bommanahalli (20), followed by East zone (18), South (nine),

Yelahanka (eight). Dasarahalli has no containment zones. Meanwhile Karnataka covid-19 War Room chief Munish Moudgil said, “The oxygen supply is stable and not increasing any further. The consumption virtually never increased even during the peak of third wave.”

If we look at the hospital admissions in the last fortnight,

peak hospital admissions were seen on January 25 when 85 were admitted and since then it has been on a decline except for February 4 when it shot up to 54 admissions and since then cases have fallen below 28 patients getting hospitalised a day.

PHANA president Dr HM Prasanna said, “We have written to the State Government to release the 50 per cent of the bed allocated for covid patients. Following a government directive, we have set aside half of the beds since January 4 this year. For the last one month, we have observed that hospitalisation is very low and all these beds are not occupied by government referred patients. As of now, these notified beds are not earning any revenue for us. As a result, the maintenance of these beds are seen a huge financial burden for private sector. At the same time, the requirement and demand for non-covid admission is rising. We have assured the government that in case of any eventual reversal of trend in covid admission is found, and then we can make this bed availability for government allocation within five to seven days.”

VACCINATION

Meanwhile, 90 per cent of Karnataka is fully vaccinated with both doses. Two districts; Bengaluru Rural and Vijayapura have achieved 100 per cent second dose coverage, said Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar.



TRUDEAU DIDN'T CALL FOR BOYCOTT OF UNVAXXED

THE CLAIM

Several posts on social media are circulating a screenshot purporting to show a Facebook message posted by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau encouraging people to ostracise and not interact those not vaccinated against covid-19



SO, WHAT'S THE TRUTH?

The news agency reviewed Trudeau's Facebook account and found out that there was no such post on his account. They also checked other official social media accounts for Trudeau and did not find any such post in which he is asking people to boycott the unvaccinated individuals. In an email response to a Reuters inquiry regarding the authenticity of the Facebook post, representatives for the Office of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said: “this is not our post.”

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's separate the news from the noise, Bengaluru. Tell us about that incredible-sounding story/news/alert that you've received on WhatsApp or social media and Bangalore Mirror researchers and editors will see if it checks out. If it doesn't, we'll call it out

TOP COMMENTS

Readers have some ideas to genuinely get rid of potholes

BM's story 'Hole Tripping' has elicited a few interesting observations. A user named Don comments on the BM website that it looks like too much publicity and little emphasis on the quality of work. Amulya Ranjan Dash writes, the quality of pothole filling is ensured if the process follows specific technical standards. There should be more portable machines to work after the monsoon. Startups should be given bank loans to enable bring in such machines. Companies can also sponsor this work from their CSR funding. In any case do not trust the BBMP to fill the potholes. They are stupid laggards. @loser2415 writes on Twitter, whose duty (it is), and who is doing it. This is clear people are only for salary not to serve people. @MukeshWadhwa1 also tweets in the same vein: And Useless BBMP is sleeping.

WEBHITS

3 most-read articles on the Mirror site

- The hood life
- Hole tripping
- Woman asks for lift, flees with man's gold chain

Retd Air Force pilot, wife murdered at their villa

A 70-year-old retired pilot from the Indian Air-Force and his wife were found murdered in their villa in Bidadi near Ramanagar on Tuesday.

The police suspect that it is a case of murder for gain. They suspect that the assailant is a caretaker of pets of the deceased as he has been absconding soon after the incident came to light.

The deceased have been identified as Raghuraman (70) and Asha (63) (pic), who hailed from Tamil Nadu and had worked in Delhi. The couple had settled down near the Eagleton residential villas in Bidadi and have been living in C Block of a private villa for six years. Their children, a daughter and son, live in Delhi.

The murder came to light around 2 pm when



Raghuraman's son called the security to check the home as his parents were not answering his phone calls after he repeatedly tried to reach them.

The security guard came to the villa and found the pet caretaker at home. The pet caretaker

was hired six months ago to take care of a stray dog and a cat. His job is to feed and nurse the pets, the police said.

He told the security guards that the couple had left for Bengaluru around 4 am.

The security guards informed the same to his son who wondered what the pet caretaker's business was inside the house if his parents were out. The son asked the guards to go inside the house and check. As the security guards went inside to check, the caretaker escaped.

The guards found the bodies lying in a pool of blood in different bedrooms. The Bidadi police were alerted and senior police officer from Ramanagar district police along with dog squad conducted spot investigations.

Investigations revealed that

the murder could have taken place the previous night and the accused had used a hammer to bludgeon the couple to death by hitting them on their head. The accused then ransacked the house to search for valuables and even consumed alcohol while staying up through the night until the next afternoon when the security guards came to the villa to check.

The bodies were shifted for the post-mortem and will be handed over to the family members on Wednesday. A special team has been formed to track down the assailant who the police say is from Bihar. The police are now on the lookout for the suspect and awaiting the family members to ascertain about the missing valuables from the house.

—BMB

No rose without a thorn

Pandemic, weather conditions and so much more affected sales last year, but growers expect higher sales, 20 to 30 per cent rise in prices now

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A year of bad sales later, export-quality rose farms in and around Bengaluru are finally recovering from the pandemic hit. In fact, industry experts expect a 20 to 30 per cent rise in rose prices this year. Thanks to Valentine's Day, rose sales are increasing all over the world.

On the outskirts of Bengaluru, several farmers grow export-quality roses in poly houses. Experts said Valentine's Day fever usually lasts up to six days between February 8 and 13. February 9 to 13 is considered the peak of this period and 12 is when the highest sales are expected. February 14 is when the sales are at their lowest.

According to International Flower Auction Bangalore (IFAB), which receives flowers from buyers and sells them to exporters, rose growers utilise their platform more often than other flower growers. Around 99 per cent of people selling their produce on the market are rose growers.

Last year, IFAB saw a record sale of 4 lakh rose stems on the day sales hit their peak at a price of Rs 32 per stem. The average among all 40 colours of roses was estimated to be Rs 16. However this year, they expect a surge in sales and are hoping to sell 5 lakh stems of each kind of rose being sold at Rs 40 per stem. This would mark a 20 to 30 per cent increase in prices compared to last year. Experts said the price of roses will differ from stem to stem based on the quality of leaves, height of stem and width of the rose.

January did not include many



On the outskirts of Bengaluru, several farmers grow export-quality roses in poly houses. Last year, due to high temperatures poly sheets were damaged

auspicious days and we saw a dip in sales but February is seeing a huge increase due to an increased demand fueled by multiple auspicious days for marriages. Roses are in major demand during the wedding season and Valentine's Day period.

"Until now seven crore stems have been sold. The number should reach 9 crore by March. The sudden rise in prices can be attributed to many being unable to farm last year due to the pandemic," said an official from IFAB. Despite such favourable conditions, small-scale growers who farm on two to four acres of land are barely managing to survive.

"For the past two years, small-scale growers have been struggling.

“Until now seven crore stems have been sold. The number should reach 9 crore by March. The sudden rise in prices can be attributed to many being unable to farm last year due to the pandemic

— an IFAB official

Last year, the city saw high temperatures; poly sheets were damaged. Covid also struck farmers at the same time. Due to a lack of funds, many opted out of rose farming. Rebuilding a one-acre project would cost Rs 10 lakh. Generally, a project is expected to last at least four or five years to be profitable," said Siddaramanna, president, Karnataka Small Flower Grower Association.

Further, maintaining farm costs

at least Rs 2 lakh per month. Moreover, the length of a profitable season varies. "During the pandemic, with transportation stopped, farms were shut for six months. We endured huge losses. Farmers were cutting flowers to throw away.

If flowers aren't cut on time, the farm will get ruined," said Siddaramanna. Further, he said that the government has fixed prices for almost everything but roses.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Burnin' problem

Mother Teresa Road



Folks have been burning piles of garbage here, causing pollution.

No parking

Nehru Road



People have been parking vehicles in spaces meant for pedestrians. BBMP must accommodate the needs of pedestrians and motorists.

PIPE DREAM: Who will plug leaks?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

response from BWSSB stating that it does not have the BBMP's permission to dig up the road. It is causing a lot of inconvenience to the commuters," said resident Thanmaya BP.

All government agencies are required to take prior permission from the BBMP before digging any road in Bengaluru. Before initiating the repair works of broken water pipes, BWSSB needs to assure BBMP that the road will be restored to the original condition — now this is proving to be a tough nut to crack.

'Clause of contention'

BWSSB officials said while they are not shying away from refurbishment of the roads, the bone of contention is a special clause in the undertaking, which states 'BWSSB will be responsible for any untoward incident on the stretch after the dig'. "We will be attending to leakage issues soon. We have applied for permission from the BBMP. We cannot cut roads open unless we have a written permission from the civic authority.

However, there is no way we can ensure that an untoward incident will not take place. Neither we expect any unpleasant episode, nor we want it to happen. As far as road restoration is concerned, we



take full responsibility for restoring it as per BBMP's specifications. We will take a note of base and sub-base layers as we cut the road open and will rebuild it the same way," said Devraj, chief engineer, maintenance, BWSSB. The Palike, it seems, is particularly peeved at the way road restoration work was handled by BWSSB in the past.

According to Mohamad Javeed EIS, assistant executive engineer, BBMP, the repair work is on hold as BWSSB is yet to sign an undertaking on restoring the stretch after the repair work.

"The roads are dug up by other agencies and not restored properly. Later, BBMP is put under the

scanner in case of any untoward incident. We are ready to give permission and have also sent the letter that they need to sign as undertaking. We want BWSSB to state in the letter that they will be responsible for any unpleasant incidents due to the dig. They have not signed it yet, leading to the delay in granting permission," said Javeed.

Amidst all the complaints and chaos, BWSSB seems to be treading a tightrope.

"The Balekundari Junction belongs to Bengaluru Smart City Ltd. While the entity has granted permission for repair work, we are being cautious and have reached out to the police for permission. We cannot dig up roads without proper authorisation as it will have legal consequences. We will begin repair work as soon as we get permission," said Devraj.

Delays in repair works have irked the residents and ward committee members; civic agencies are looking for a way to avoid such predicament in future. To ensure that repair approvals in case of emergency situations be granted faster, top brass of both civic agencies will soon get together. "We are in touch with BBMP to ensure such situations do not arise again. Both agencies are committed towards the betterment of the city. Senior officials from both agencies will soon be meeting to devise a solution," said a BWSSB official.

Tow this

Vasanthapura



A BBMP vehicle has been abandoned on 1st Main in Vasantha Vallabha Nagar. Despite being informed, the assistant engineer has not ensured that the vehicle is moved to free the space on the road.

City reeling under blood donation scams



Posts on social media, requesting for blood donors, are attracting fraudsters

Fraudsters swindle money of patients' families, go incommunicado

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Blood donation organisers warn people to be careful of fraudsters who have been allegedly contacting families of patients in need of blood and are swindling them on the pretext of travel expenses.

The desperate posts on social media requesting for blood donors are attracting the fraudsters who are contacting patients' families in the guise of blood donors, cheating them over "travel expenses" and not turning up for the donations. The families are more concerned about the time and energy wasted while blindly waiting for the blood donors to turn up at the

time of emergencies.

In a recent case, a woman who needed two units of blood for her father and posted the requirement on social media, received a call from an unknown person who agreed to donate his blood. She told BM, "We needed the blood immediately and the person called me on Saturday morning, claiming to be one Sandeep. He informed me that he and his friend would be coming for blood donation. I shared the hospital details along with location. Sandeep told me that one of them was coming from Marathahalli while another from Silk Board and requested me to pay them Rs 700 for their transportation. I agreed to pay the money. After transferring the money, I waited for hours but he didn't turn up and when I started call-

"In many cases, once a donor confirms, we close the donation call. After hours, we realise that it was a case of fraud"

—Blood donation organiser

ing, he stopped responding and later his mobile was switched off."

She was really tense about arranging for other donors at the last minute. "Though we managed to find a donor finally, but the previous experience was horrific."

A blood donation organiser said that currently most of the

blood banks are running dry and it is very difficult to find blood donors. "It is mostly the regular donors who are stepping out to help during emergencies. In many cases, once a donor confirms to the patient's family, we close the donation call and after hours we realise that it was a fraud, we put up the request back again. In such cases, the families will not be in any condition to approach the police to file a complaint."

The police should take up a Suo Moto case and crackdown on such people so that we don't lose any lives while waiting for blood donors to turn up, he added. "We are asking the families not to pay the transportation money until they arrive at the blood bank or the hospital. We ask them to close the donation call only after the donation is completed."

Man goes on a rampage in hospital's post-natal ward

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A 61-year-old man was booked for assaulting the staff and security guards of KC General Hospital after he was asked to leave the women-only post-delivery ward where his wife was admitted.

The accused, Mark Manjesh has been arrested and sent to judicial custody by the police. Dhananjaya, a staff from the hospital filed a complaint with the Malleswaram police. Police said that Mark's 24-year-old wife gave birth to their baby only two days ago and he insisted that the treatment had to be given in his presence.

Dhananjaya said that the incident took place on Thursday night and Manjesh's wife was admitted at the hospital for childbirth. "She was staying in the post-delivery ward. Their child was kept in the NICU and he had come to the hospital to give her dinner around 10:45 pm. There were about six women inside the ward and men are not allowed inside except during visiting hours. Mark was feeding her dinner at 11 pm when the security guard, Suresh, who was on rounds noticed him and asked him to leave after he finished."

"After an hour, Suresh returned and saw him sleeping next to her on the bed in an inappropriate manner. The other women inside the ward too were uncomfortable and Suresh asked him to leave again. Mark started picking a



Mark (inset) broke the glass inside the ward of KC General Hospital, which was recorded by onlookers

fight with him. When Suresh tried to speak to him, he got angry and started to assault him. He punched him on his face and broke his tooth. All the attenders and staff including myself rushed to the stop to help Suresh when Mark started abusing us including the women," he said.

He said that Mark, in a fit of anger, broke the glass inside the ward and held the shard in his hand to attack us. "All the women who were holding their infants and sleeping, ran outside the ward in fear. It became very chaotic and he was not ready to listen to us

and started attacking all of us with the glass piece. He first attacked me with it on my back where I sustained a cut and then he slashed my leg. He attacked a few other staff as well with the glass piece and many sustained cut injuries while trying to stop him. We had to take police help to secure him," he said.

A senior police officer said that they received the call for help late in the night and rushed to the hospital to secure him. "Our police personnel too struggled a lot to secure him and he even assaulted our staff when they got closer to him. With great effort, we secured him and produced him before the court. He was sent to judicial custody," he said.

The police have booked him under Section 341 (wrongful restraint), 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by weapons or means), 326 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons), 447 (criminal trespass) along with other IPC sections and The Prevention of Violence against doctors, medical professionals and medical institutions bill, 2018.



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500g

₹99

Code: 99CKN



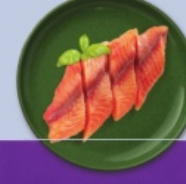
Ayala/Bangda
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₹139



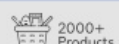
Chicken
Cubes
500g

₹175



Baasa Fillet
(Boneless)
500g

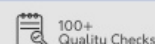
₹199



2000+
Products



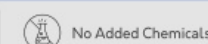
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Quality Checks



No Antibiotic
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Animals have rights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in support of animal carers; protect them from those who harm dogs or prevent feeding. "As policemen are unaware of stringent guidelines, most animal caretakers and feeders do not get the much needed support from police. In some cases, carers are harassed," Harish pointed out.

Recently, a resident of Sobha Hill

View apartment complex in Talaghattapura filed a complaint about unidentified residents in the same community poisoning and killing cats there. The society had around 85 cats a couple of months ago, now reduced to less than half, animal lovers and pet parent residents at the apartment block told this newspaper. When they approached the Talaghattapura police station with a

complaint, the personnel registered a Non-Cognisable Report (NCR) - usually filed when the offence is trivial.

"When any animal is being harassed or hurt, there would be those who inform the police; eventually the police would end up seeking to know what is the informers' interest in it or how they are involved in the case. Only after intervention of officials from the animal husbandry department or SPCA members, the cops decide to spend some time learning about the existence of such laws. Most

cases are registered by animal activists or SPCA members, after roping in government officials," Prasad added.

Meanwhile, state police chief DG-IGP Praveen Sood said he is aware of the circular from the Centre which his office had forwarded to all police stations. "We have been sensitising our men about the PCA Act and AWBI guidelines. It is a continuing process. The mention of harassment to animal caretakers and feeders by the police could be due to some individual perceptions," Sood told Bangalore Mirror.

Prasad stressed there is a need for IPS officers for the post of vice chairman at all the district SPCAs: "The chairman is the district collector while the vice chairperson should be an SP-rank officer which is vacant at all districts": "We are awaiting the amended PCA Act Gazette notification where the penalty for animal cruelty would be up to Rs 75,000 and imprisonment up to 5 years; this will be a major deterrent for people thinking of hurting animals," Prasad concluded.

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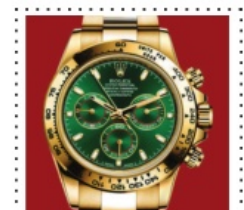
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I MNJUNATH.S. S/O SUBRAMANI Residing at no 191, Murali hotel Road Bairaveshwara Nagar part 1 Hanumantha rayana palya, Bangalore - 560091 Have changed my name as **E A K A N T H A . S** to MANJUNATH.S. for all purposes vide affidavit dated 23-02-2022 before notary CHNDRAKALA Bangalore

I, Vidyashree Shriram Padole W/o Ajay Krishnarao Bodhmag, R/o A202, NEELADHARI SADAN Apt, MURGESHPALYA, BANGALORE 560017 declares that in my husband passport, no: Z6205410, my name is Vidyashree Shriram Padole

I, Mary Sangma W/O, Bharat Haresh Patel R/o 2a Flat No 6 8th A Cross Pilla Reddy Nagar Chikabanasawadi have changed my name to Nayna Bharat Patel for all purposes.

I Mary Ancily W/o T M Cyriac R/o #88, 20th B main Venkateswara layout, BTM 1st stage, Bangalore-560068 have changed my name to Ancily Cyriac

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Students' hijab row shuts high-school, college doors

Let us wait for the judiciary's decision, says CM Bommai



Students from colleges across Karnataka have been protesting over the Hijab row

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As the Hijab controversy escalated in Karnataka, the State Government has announced three-day closure of all high-schools and colleges.

Higher Education Minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan said that this order will be applicable to all government and private institutions. Meanwhile, educationist D Shashi Kumar said that though the holiday was given to offline classes, schools will continue to impart online education for the next three days.

Meanwhile Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday appealed to the Opposition and the others not to escalate the situation by making "provocative" statements and to wait for the High Court order. The state government is going by the law on dress code and the same stand has been put before the court, he said. "Let's wait for the judiciary's decision and we will abide by whatever it says," he added.

HC says some keeping the issue burning

The Karnataka High Court on Tuesday appealed to students and people to maintain peace and tranquility as the Hijab row escalated in parts of the State.

After hearing the petitions filed by some students from Government Pre-University College for Girls in the coastal town of Udupi, the court posted the matter for

Wednesday. "This court requests the students and the public to maintain peace and tranquility. This court has full faith in the wisdom and virtue of public at large and hopes that the same would be put to practice," the single bench of Justice Krishna S Dixit said.

The petitioners sought a declaration from the court that they have a fundamental right to practise essential religious practices, including wearing of Hijab as per Islamic faith, on the college premises. Asking people to have faith in the Indian constitution, Justice Dixit observed that only some mischievous people were keeping the issue burning. Justice Dixit also pointed out that agitations, sloganeering and students attacking each other were not good.

Protests, stone pelting

Protests erupted at the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial College in Udupi on Tuesday, after a large group of students wearing saffron stoles and headgears raised slogans in the college campus as hijab clad Muslim girls were staging a protest "demanding justice", forcing the police

The High Court has full faith in the wisdom and virtue of public at large and hopes that the same would be put to practice

—Justice Krishna S Dixit, Karnataka HC

Don't give opportunity to use police force: Minister

As protests for and against the 'hijab' intensified at colleges in different parts of Karnataka, state's Home Minister Araga Jnanendra on Tuesday while appealing for peace said no one should give an opportunity to use the police force.

The Home Minister's warning came as tension prevailed at some educational institutions in Udupi, Shivamogga, Bagalkot and other parts, forcing the police and authorities to intervene. "You (students) are all educated, you have to think about your future. After two years of covid pandemic, this year classes have been conducted in a good way. This is the time for you to prepare for your exams that are coming up in a couple of months," Jnanendra said.

and college authorities to intervene.

According to police sources, a minor stone pelting incident was reported near a college in Bagalkot and few students even tried to barge into the campus, whom police dispersed using mild force.

Prohibitory orders

Prohibitory orders have been clamped in Shivamogga district of Karnataka on Tuesday following incidents of violence due to hijab row.

Considering the volatility of the situation, the district admin-

istration has issued curfew orders to stop mobs and students from stone pelting. The agitating students wearing saffron shawl hoisted 'Bhagva dhvaj' in the college premises.

Education Minister BC Nagesh has given directions to the Education Department to take a call on declaring two-day holiday for the colleges and schools, based on the prevailing situation which is turning violent in the backdrop of hijab row.

Shivamogga Superintendent of Police Lakshmiprasad stated that the violence erupted between two groups of students and they pelted stones at each other.

Two students got hurt and the police are still looking for injured persons. The police are looking into how the stone pelting started, he said.

R Selvamani, District Commissioner of Shivamogga district said that the students were being sent back as a preventive measure to avoid confrontation. A complaint on stone pelting has been received and investigation will be taken up, he said.

Sources said the police have taken four students of Shivamogga Government College into custody following the violence and their parents have objected to the action by the police. The miscreants have pelted stones at one of the private buses in the city.

Exams dates still same

Dr Ashwath Narayan clarified that though holidays were declared for colleges, the examinations scheduled on these dates will be held as scheduled.

(With inputs from agencies)

Prajnesh on track to regain title

| Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Top-ranked tennis player Prajnesh Gunneswaran, who treats Bengaluru as his second home, began his campaign on a winning note and is keen to regain the Bengaluru Open ATP Challenger title, which he won in the 2018 edition at the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association.

Prajnesh defeated Mathias Bourque of France 7-6 (4), 6-2 in straight sets to move into the last 16 round on Tuesday.

"I have great memories of Bengaluru. I practised at the KSLTA for a fairly long period and I have had a good outing at the Challengers. I have many titles here and it is like a second home for me in India other than Chennai. Winning here again would definitely add to my joy," said the 32-year-old.

Currently ranked 228 in the world, Prajnesh expects stiff competition during the week to come.

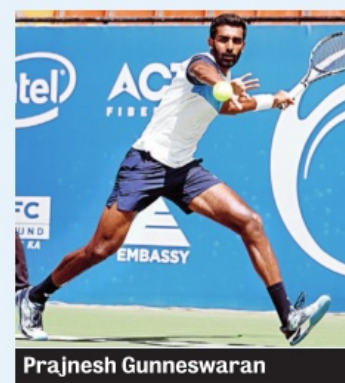
Prajnesh defeated Mathias Bourque of France in straight sets to move into the last 16 rounds

"Definitely it is going to be tough. I'm sure there are a lot of good players, especially because it's right after Pune and then the two Challenges are in a row. So a lot of the higher ranked players end up staying, which is not necessarily good for the Indians, but it is good to have an event with quality players. It's always nice to watch and be a part of it," he said.

Prajnesh, who has two ATP Challenger titles and nine ITF titles to his credit, was not in the best of shape during last year which also saw covid-19 curtailing most of the efforts of the players across the world. "It was surely not a fun year. Just having a visa was not enough as there were new updates about regulations and measures every week. It was difficult traveling which was hectic and stressful," said the Southpaw.

"I could not train much but over the last two months I have gotten past that and I am raring to go," said Prajnesh.

He said in times when the events are scarce, the twin legs of the Bengaluru Open ATP Challenger comes as a boon to the players.



Prajnesh Gunneswaran

Oppn fumes as PM defends covid efforts

As Modi claims economic growth, Chidambaram blames government policies for a rise in inflation and loss of jobs

#New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi defended his government's efforts to fight the covid-19 pandemic over the last two years, saying on Tuesday they led to high economic growth and middling inflation, unlike the situation in some advanced economies. Economic growth is estimated at 9.2% in India's fiscal year ending in March and at 8% to 8.5% the next, after a contraction of 6.6% in fiscal 2019/20, while retail inflation hovers around 5.5%, well within the central bank's target of 2% to 6%.

The government has distributed free foodgrain to 800 million people during the pandemic, while taking steps to tame inflation, Modi told the upper house of parliament in remarks that triggered an opposition boycott of his speech. "I want to assure everyone that while the pandemic lasts, we will protect the poor," Modi said, as he accused opposition parties of creating panic about the impact of the pandemic.

India's covid-19 death toll crossed 504,000 on Wednesday. Despite the pandemic, India's economy was growing at the fastest pace among major economies, while manufacturing incentives helped bolster growth, Modi said.

"We have moved further on the growth path," he said, adding that the government had offered financial incentives for domestic manufacturing, and helped spearhead a



A healthcare worker collects a nasal swab sample of a woman for covid-19 testing, in Jammu on Monday

push by small and medium businesses into critical sectors such as defence. Opposition criticism of Modi's handling of the pandemic highlighted that India slipped last year to 101 among 116 nations on the Global Hunger Index, from a previous ranking of 94, while many people faced difficulties. P

Chidambaram, a leader of the main opposition Congress party, blamed government policies for a rise in inflation and loss of jobs during the pandemic, besides widening income inequalities.

"Welfare has been thrown to the wind," the former finance minister told parliament. —Reuters

Gautam Adani becomes Asia's richest person

#New Delhi

The Indian coal mining tycoon Gautam Adani has become Asia's richest person thanks to a push into green energy that has boosted his fortune to \$88.5bn, The Guardian reported.

Adani has overtaken fellow countryman Mukesh Ambani to enter the top 10 of the world's richest people, according to figures from Forbes and Bloomberg, after seeing his personal

fortune rise by \$12bn in the past year. Among the mega-rich whom Adani has leapfrogged to reach the world top 10 are Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, who slipped down the table several places last week after losing \$30 billion of his personal fortune, the report said. His Adani Group controls the port of Mundra, India's largest, in the mogul's home state of Gujarat and he also owns 74 per cent of Mumbai international

airport. But his push into green energy has paid off handsomely in the past year with the listed company Adani Green Energy now his most valuable after its share price almost doubled in the past 12 months, the report said.

The group is in the process of ploughing \$70bn into green energy projects by 2030 with the aim of becoming the world's largest renewable-energy producer. — IANS

Mediocre appointments damage youth's future, says Varun Gandhi

#New Delhi

The BJP MP Varun Gandhi on Tuesday slammed the choice of Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit as JNU vice-chancellor, saying such "mediocre appointments serve to damage our human capital and our youth's future".

With few higher education institutions on a par with global standards, he said, India needs to have right leaders to shape the journey for universities likely to succeed and, as such, appointing someone with little to offer in academic vision, credentials or even the ability to communicate, is "a path to mediocrity and long-term illiteracy for our human capital".

Gandhi shared on Twitter the press release put out by Pandit after she took over, and said this is an exhibition of "illiteracy".

He said, "This press release from the new JNU VC is an exhibition of illiteracy, littered with grammatical mistakes (would strive vs will strive; students friendly vs student-friendly; excellences vs ex-

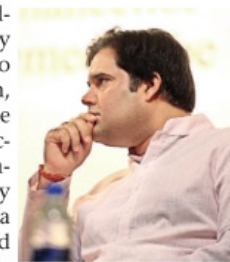
cellence). Such mediocre appointments serve to damage our human capital & our youth's future."

"We need leaders, with the right values, and discipline - not those who cannot do basic due diligence on their first press release with regards to their appointment. A great institution like JNU needs empathy, sensitivity and careful steering, not a loud-mouth, with little verbal control," he added.

Academic credentials and past experience, not retweets, should be the criteria for selection, he said, in an apparent reference to some controversial tweets from an unverified handle bearing her name. The handle has been since taken down.

The central government appointed Pandit as the vice-chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, making her the first woman to hold the post.

The 59-year-old Pandit is also an alumna of JNU where she pursued her MPhil as well as PhD in International Relations. — PTI



Avalanche: Bodies of 7 Army personnel found

#New Delhi

The bodies of seven Army personnel were found on Tuesday in a high-altitude region in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh, two days since they went missing after their patrol in the border area was struck by an avalanche, officials said.

The Army had launched a search and rescue operation on Sunday after the soldiers went missing.

"Bodies of all seven individuals have been recovered from the avalanche site. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of everyone involved, all seven have been confirmed deceased," the Army said in a statement.

The officials said the area located at an altitude of 14,500 feet had been witnessing inclement weather



with heavy snowfall in the last few days. "The bodies of the soldiers are currently being transferred from the avalanche site to the nearest Army medical facility for further formalities," the Army said. Officials said the soldiers were part of a patrol that was struck by the avalanche on February 6. — PTI

Pegasus: NIA can submit phones of Elgar case accused

#Mumbai

The special NIA court here on Tuesday allowed the National Investigation Agency's (NIA) plea to submit mobile phones of seven accused in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case to the Supreme Court-appointed technical committee looking into the Pegasus issue. A lawyer, representing one of the accused, said the SC-appointed panel had asked the NIA for these

mobile devices.

The NIA sought the special court's permission to submit the mobile phones of the seven accused as these devices are in the custody of the court.

Special NIA court judge D E Kothalikar allowed the NIA's plea.

The seven accused are Rona Wilson, Anand Teltumbde, Vernon Gonsalves, P. Varavara Rao, Sudha Bharadwaj, Hany Babu and Shoma



Sen. These seven accused had recently sent their representation to the SC-appointed committee alleging that their phones were infected by the Pegasus spyware.

The three-member technical committee was set up by the apex court last October to look into allegations of the use of Israeli spyware Pegasus for targeted surveillance in India.

The Elgar Parishad-Maoist links

case is related to the inflammatory speeches made at a conclave held in Pune on December 31, 2017, which, the police claimed, triggered violence on the next day near the Koregaon-Bhima war memorial located on the outskirts of the western Maharashtra city.

The police had claimed the conclave was organised by people with alleged Maoist links. Later, the case was transferred to the NIA. — PTI



BEST OF

DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 I am an 18-year-old man and my girlfriend is also 18. We would like to continue our relationship forever, but first we want to focus on our careers. Naturally, we do think about romance, but we find that this distracts us from our studies. However, it is getting worse by the day. We kiss each other once in a day but we are now thinking about stepping things up romantically. Only, we fear it will affect our academic performance negatively. What can I do to stop thinking about romance so that I can focus on my studies? I also have one more query: I masturbate once a week – is this okay? My gym buddies believe that too much masturbation can prevent muscle growth and they say I will not be able to develop my physique if I engage in it. Is there any truth to what they say?

Masturbation has no connection with your muscle growth. It is not possible for you to forget about the relationship you have going. It's up to you to make some time for that and then go back to your studies. Try and develop a habit of studying seriously, without taking a break and then you can reserve time to catch up on your romance. For example, you can take a break every two hours. But you may in between have flashes of pleasure. As for taking your relationship to the next level, you two could discuss this during these breaks.

2 I am a 20-year-old man. Recently I tried to have sex for the first time, but I ejaculated the moment my penis touched the woman's vagina. This was embarrassing and now I am worried about it happening again. What should I do? Please advise.

Practice makes perfect. Be patient and all will be well. Should you be very anxious, consult a sexpert.

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Heartbreaking tale

All about a temporary condition brought on by stress, emotional distress, physical injury or surgery

| Aishwarya Acharya
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Broken heart syndrome, scientifically known as takotsubo cardiomyopathy, is a temporary heart condition that is often triggered by stressful situations and extreme emotions. It can also be an after-effect of a serious physical injury or surgery. It can be easily confused with a heart attack as sudden chest pains are observed. As serious as it may sound, there are two sides to it.

Broken heart syndrome can lead to severe or short-term muscle failure, however, it is usually treatable. Most individuals who suffer from a broken heart syndrome usually recover within weeks of its diagnosis but, having said that, broken heart syndrome can also be fatal in rare cases. Hence, necessary precautions and care must be followed as advised. Let us have a deeper look into the condition...

As mentioned earlier, a broken heart syndrome also known as stress cardiomyopathy is a temporary heart condition that's brought on by numerous factors such as stress, emotional distress, physical injury or surgery. It is usually curable and doesn't recur but in the rarest of cases, it can be fatal.

Tip: Ensure you dedicate 30 minutes to relaxation techniques.

Broken heart syndrome causes

According to Ilan Wittstein, M.D, Director of Advanced Heart Failure Fellowship and Assistant Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins Medicine, there are clearly two kinds of stressors. "Two kinds of stress – emotional or physical – often cause broken heart syndrome. But while most people with this condition experience a stressful event, up to 30 percent of patients have no identifiable trigger at the time of their initial symptoms."

Emotional stressors can include:

- Surprise
- Grief
- Fear
- Extreme anger



Physical stressors can include:

- Seizure
- Stroke
- Difficulty in breathing
- Low blood sugar
- High fever
- Significant bleeding

Tip: If you experience even some of these symptoms, consult your cardiologist immediately.

Broken heart syndrome symptoms

The symptoms of broken heart syndrome can range from chest pain to dizziness. These symptoms may begin within minutes or last as long as hours after an emotionally or physically stressful event. Some more symptoms may include shortness of breath and sweating or diaphoresis which are very similar to a heart attack.

Breakdown of a broken heart syndrome

According to Harvard Health Publishing, broken heart syndrome is mostly exclusive to women and is named after an octopus trap. The precise cause isn't known, but experts think that surging stress hormones (for example,

adrenaline) essentially "stun" the heart, triggering changes in heart muscle cells or coronary blood vessels (or both) that prevent the left ventricle from contracting effectively. Broken-heart syndrome occurs more often in women than men, especially after menopause, the study states.

Some more stressors associated with broken heart syndrome include domestic violence, fierce argument, car accident, asthma attack, receiving bad news, public speaking and so on, as per a study published by American Heart Journal in 2008.

Since the symptoms of broken heart syndrome are indistinguishable from a heart attack, clinicians look for these factors:

No evidence of blockages in the coronary arteries in an angiogram.

A rapid but slow rise in cardiac biomarkers. In a heart attack, the biomarkers take longer to rise but peak higher.

In an ECG, the most common abnormality in broken heart syndrome is ballooning of the lower part of the left ventricle

of the heart.

Tip: Get a full body checkup twice a year to be updated and aware of the findings. Follow medications or lifestyle modifications accordingly.

Broken heart syndrome complications

Some of the complications observed after diagnosis of the syndrome in patients include the following:

Thrombosis

Thrombosis is a condition where the blood clot formation within the blood vessels leads to reduced blood flow in the circulatory system.

Heart failure

Although a common complication that's observed in broken heart syndrome in 12-45 percent of affected individuals, patients who experience recurrence of the broken heart syndrome are more prone to develop heart failure.

Cardiogenic shock

This occurs when the heart muscle fails to pump enough blood in the circulatory system which may worsen with the severity of the broken heart syndrome in an individual.

Tip: External stressors might also lead to complications, consult a specialist to avoid any negligence from your end.

Prevention of broken heart syndrome

While broken heart syndrome can be treated, utmost care must be taken in order to avoid it from happening in the first place. One of the first steps to doing this is learning stress management and learning problem-solving techniques to improve your physical and emotional health.

Relaxation techniques

Engage in more relaxation techniques like meditation or yoga for at least an hour every day. Take a warm bath with relaxing bath bombs, light scented candles can help to a large extent. Depending on the level of your stress, you can enroll yourself in a support group to vent about your stress and learn more about its coping skills and take from others who have been in a similar situation. Seeking help from a professional counselor is the next best thing in this scenario. Keep an open mind and never hide what you feel and how you feel with your therapist. **Tip:** Yoga and meditation go a long way in bringing down your stress levels. Practice them daily for at least 15 minutes.

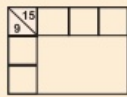
Dietary modifications

In addition to these, ensure you maintain a healthy diet, get regular exercise, get a minimum of eight to nine hours of sleep as recommended and needed by your body. Stop and avoid unhealthy lifestyle habits like smoking, alcohol, drugs, and so on.

Tip: Cut down on junk, include more greens and fruits in your diet.

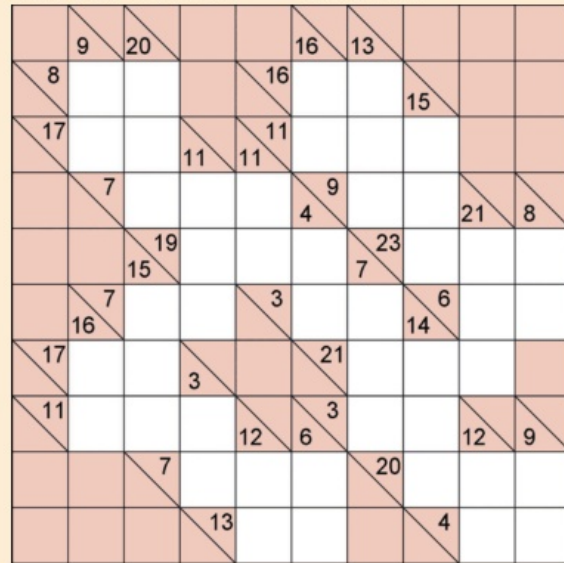
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

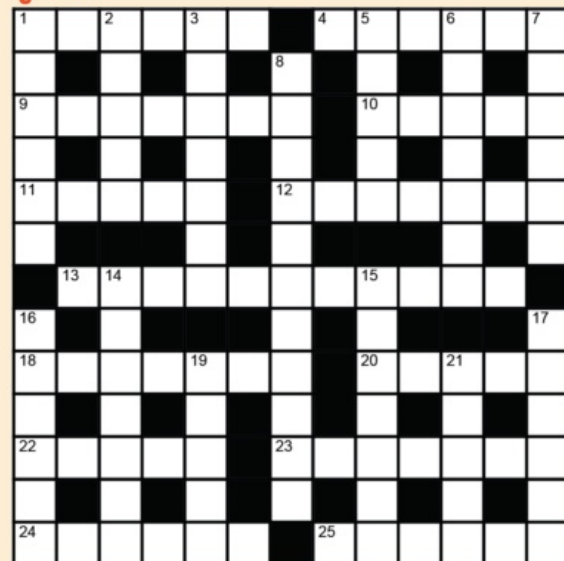


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Extract, dig out or weed out? (6)
- 4 Hairdresser (6)
- 9 Wear something and see how it fits (3,2,2)
- 10 Grasps or holds firmly or tightly (5)
- 11 Many (prefix) (5)
- 12 Gallery custodian (7)
- 13 Ornamented, elaborated with additions (11)
- 18 Theatre on Varthur Road (7)
- 20 Spanish friend (5)
- 22 Central African republic (5)
- 23 Newspaper bosses (7)
- 24 Thinly scattered; infrequent (6)
- 25 Sets of beliefs or principles (6)

DOWN

- 1 In the previous month (6)
- 2 Most high-born (5)
- 3 Rough draft or summary (7)
- 5 Ire or fury (5)
- 6 Fragile (7)
- 7 Holiday destination (6)
- 8 Not applauded (11)
- 14 Crimson dye (7)
- 15 More dubious (7)
- 16 Throws out forcibly (6)
- 17 Assists by pushing from below? (6)
- 19 Symbols or statues? (5)
- 21 Wishful words (1,4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: B EQUALS T
PQDA GL BPA QMNI HAA
BPSB YSJA L PQMAI ZGBPQT B
VNQZAKL.



Linemaro

I love the way you handle people around you



Mindchow

Politicians promise to build a bridge even where there is no river



Joke of the day

The secret of a great basketball game is to have eight great players and four others who will cheer like crazy

Loop

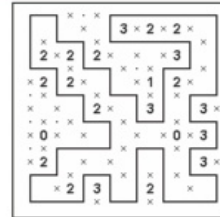
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

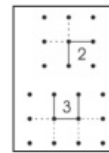
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

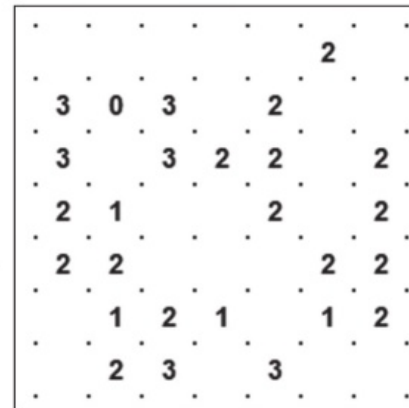
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



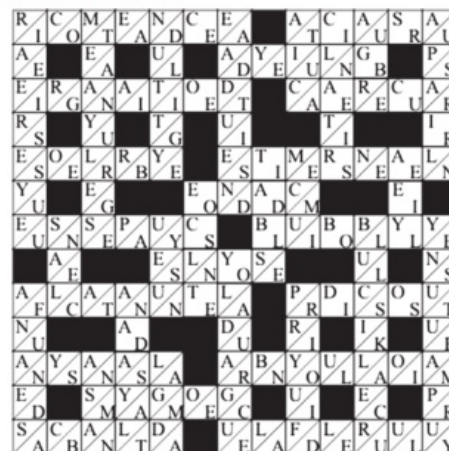
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



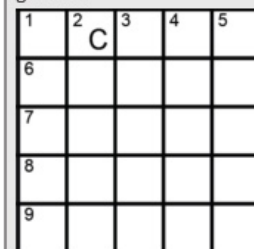
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

- 1 I rice; 6 Ell mo;
- 7 Bared; 8 Eaten;
- 9 Dec us

DOWN

- 1 Bedim; 2 No cur;
- 3 Alice; 4 At lee;
- 5 Reeds

Mensapuzzle

Which letter completes the puzzle?

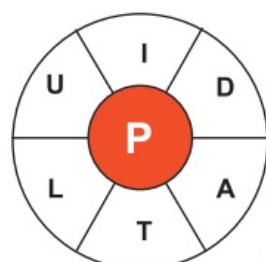
B

C

E

G

?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

□ □ □ □ □ = 20

3 6 8 9

Medium

□ □ □ □ □ = 4

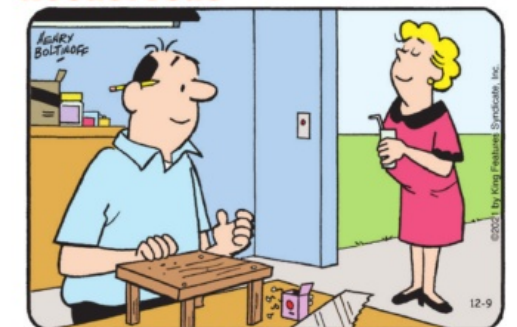
2 4 6 8

Hard

□ □ □ □ □ = 5

2 7 9 4

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Foot is moved. 2. Saw is moved. 3. Bench leg is missing. 4. Light is not as wide. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Woman is moved.

Riddler

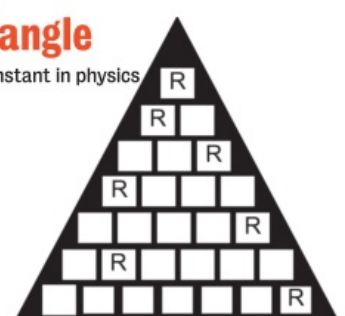
Starting with A, add a letter and shuffle to make a new word each time and continue until you reach RAINDROP.

Alpha triangle

- 1 Universal gas constant in physics
- 2 Radium symbol
- 3 Manner
- 4 Sudden attack
- 5 Low point
- 6 Saps
- 7 More flaxen

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made

at each step answering to the clue given.



COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



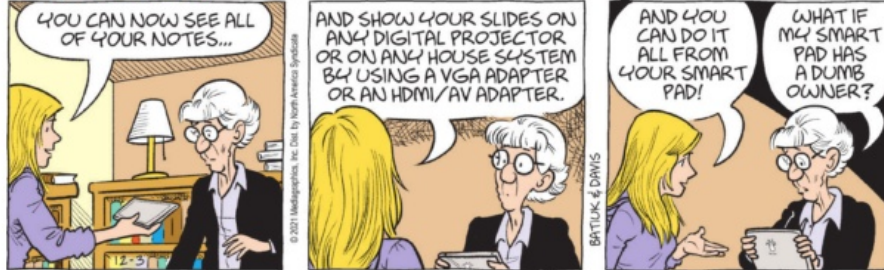
Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today you may be busy in a social gathering and be involved in family-related things. It may boost your network. You may also plan a short work-related trip. Disputes between siblings or friends may be resolved now. Your colleagues may cooperate with you and help you to complete a difficult project. You are likely to complete all tasks with self confidence. You are advised to be patient while interacting with any person.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, past investments may yield profits. You may get good results at work easily. Your obstacles may be gone now. Your financial status may improve too. New sources of income may be expected. Couples may hear good news in terms of kids. You may get success easily after a little effort.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today, you may perform your best at work. You may develop a good bond with your boss. You may get new responsibilities and a promotion. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work. Disputes with siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find new jobs.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today you may implement some new plans in your family business. This will pay in gains in the near future. You may also be busy in a family or social gathering. You may spend on artefacts to renovate your house, which may boost your social status. Today, you should be careful as teeth, ears, eyes, nose and skin-related issues may arise.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today, you are likely to meet someone with the help of person you know. This may introduce a positive growth in your business or work. Your destiny may help you and your losses may convert to profits. Your financial health may be on track now. Love birds are advised to take some important decisions, in terms of marriage. Singles may find their soulmate.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today you may feel healthy as old diseases may be cured now. You may receive some good news from your relative. You may perform well in office, your colleague may help you in any critical project. You may develop faith in your juniors at work. It may increase your prestige in the society. You may also hear good news in legal matters.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today, you are blessed by the moon. Happiness may surround you; it may help you enjoy your day-to-day chores. Your vital power may help you make difficult decisions, which will boost profits in the near future. You may plan to go on a short work related trip. Colleagues may support you to complete your work on time. Students may be focused in studies. You are advised to control your eating habits to avoid stomach issues.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today, situations are under control. You are blessed by Jupiter today. You may expect to be appointed to an important position or post in the office. You may be attracted towards religious and mythological details. You may develop stronger thoughts. This may make you confident in your way of working. You may also plan an overseas tour.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today, you are likely to be busy with children's education and your career. You may hear good news regarding their academics. But love birds are advised to practice patience in their relationships. Investors are advised to avoid investing in risky assets; they may incur losses. It is advised to do meditation, yoga or chant prayers to come out from this situation.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today, you may feel dull. Sleeplessness may affect your mental and physical health. You may also be upset due to health issues of family members. Your expenditure on worthless stuff may affect your savings. You may become a victim of conspiracy so you are advised to keep an eye on your opponents.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, you may feel unhappy and dull. It will affect your way of working. There may be some delay in your projects. This may affect your prestige in your professional and domestic life. It is advised to avoid adventurous tours and rush driving. Love birds may break up. Job seekers may be disappointed.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Today, you will be a victim of dissatisfaction. You may not get desirable results despite your hard work and you'll face disappointment. It may make you upset. You are advised to read documents carefully before signing a contract or any papers. Investment in assets may also be possible. You are advised follow your intuition before making investments in fixed assets. Your overworking may affect your domestic life. You will arrive late to a family or social event.



KIDZONE



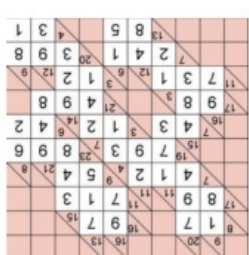
Dhruthi D,
15 Years,
The
Oxford
English
School



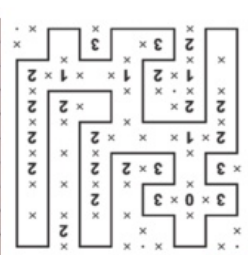
Ghaniyah,
12 Years,
Kendriya
Vidyalaya

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



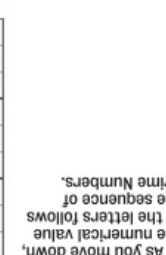
LOOP



ALPHA



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



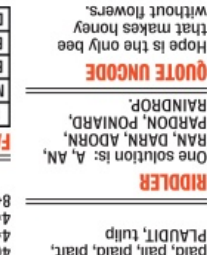
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



SOLVE IN 1M



BULLS' EYE

Power of the Dog on top

With 12 nominations, Campion's western tops list of Oscar nominees, Dune follows



Jane Campion's gothic western *The Power of the Dog* led nominations to the 94th Academy Awards, where streaming services more than ever before swept over Hollywood's top honors.

In nominations announced Tuesday, Campion's film landed a leading 12 nominations, including nods for best picture, best director and all of its top actors: Benedict Cumberbatch, Kirsten Dunst, Jesse Plemons and Kodi Smit-McPhee.

Campion, a nominee for 1993's *The Piano*, became the first woman to ever be nominated twice for best director. Last year, Chloe Zhao became just the second woman to ever win the award.

Campion's director of photography, Ari Wegner, also became the second woman ever nominated for best cinematography. The only previous woman to do so was Rachel Morrison for *Mudbound* in 2018.

Denis Villeneuve's majestic sci-fi epic *Dune* followed closely behind with 10 nominations.

The nominees for best picture are: *Belfast*; *The Power of the Dog*; *Dune*; *Drive My Car*; *West Side Story*; *Don't Look Up*; *Licorice Pizza*; *CODA*; *King Richard*; *Nightmare Alley*.

Nominations were announced Tuesday morning in Los Angeles by Leslie Jordan and Tracee Ellis Ross.

A largely virtual awards season added some unpredictability to this year's nominations, which are occurring later than usual. To make way for the Olympics, the Oscars will be held March 27 and will return to their usual venue, the Dolby Theatre.

The nominees for best actress are: Jessica Chastain, *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*; Olivia Colman, *The Lost Daughter*; Penelope Cruz, *Parallel Mothers*; Nicole Kidman, *Being the Ricardos*; Kristen Stewart, *Spencer*.

The nominees for best actor are: Will Smith, *King Richard*; Javier Bardem, *Being the Ricardos*; Benedict Cumberbatch, *The Power of the Dog* and Andrew Garfield, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* and Denzel Washington, *The Tragedy of Macbeth*.

Indian documentary makes it, films miss out

Indian documentary nominated
Indian documentary feature 'Writing With Fire' has been nominated for the Best Documentary Feature at the Oscars 2022.

The film chronicles the rise of Khabar Lahariya, India's only newspaper run



by Dalit women. The documentary is directed by Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh, also debutants. The film follows this ambitious group of Dalit wonder women - led by their chief reporter, Meera - as the team switches from print to digital in order to stay relevant.

Jai Bhim, Marakkar... don't make it

Director Tha Se Gnanavel's critically-acclaimed Tamil courtroom drama 'Jai Bhim' and Priyadarshan's Malayalam war film 'Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham', failed to make it to the list of nominations for the 94th Academy Awards that were announced on Tuesday.

Ten nominees were announced in the



Best Picture category, which was the last of the categories to be announced. While all other nominees in all other categories were chosen by members of their respective branches, nominees for Best Picture were chosen by the entire academy.

Aalu wants to work with Allu

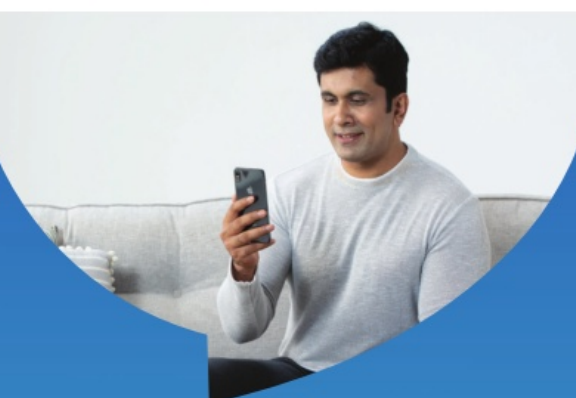
Tollywood superstar Allu Arjun's fandom has spread across the globe including several Bollywood celebrities being smitten by his charm and huge persona, especially post the success of his latest blockbuster, 'Pushpa: The Rise'.

One of the most successful actresses of Bollywood, Alia Bhatt too has expressed her wish of working with Allu Arjun. She said, "My entire family has watched 'Pushpa' and became fans of Allu Arjun. They are asking me when I will get a chance to get paired opposite him. As they call me Aalu at home, they are asking, 'Aalu, when will you work with Allu?' I'm more than glad to jump aboard if I get a chance to work with him".

Earlier, actor Anupam Kher too praised the film and also

expressed his desire to work with Allu Arjun in the future. Taking to his social media handle, the veteran actor had written, "Watched #Pushpa!! BLOCKBUSTER of a film in a real sense. Larger than life, high on adrenal and full paisa Vasool. And dear @alluarjun you are a #Rockstar!! Loved every nuance & attitude of yours. Hope to work with you soon. A big congrats to the whole team! Jai Ho!"

The film has created a new definition of Blockbuster in such a short period. Even after releasing on OTT, the fans are going crazy to watch the movie in theatres to get into the vibes. The film has broken all the records at the box office, and is also in the 100 crore club in its Hindi version and whereas worldwide it has already crossed over 300 crore.



COVID or Flu?
Quick self-check
cleared my doubts
I'm fine, thanks to Mfine.



mfine



ONE APP FOR ALL YOUR HEALTH NEEDS
Scan this QR code to try COVID self-check



Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code



V-Day gear

Get inspired by these stunning outfits worn by some of the hottest B-Town celebs

After hols, Sara back to work

After enjoying a fun trip to Kashmir with her brother Ibrahim Ali Khan and friends, actress Sara Ali Khan is all set to start shooting for her next project. She will be seen in 'Gaslight' which will be helmed by Pawan Kiplani.

Sara recently wrapped up the shooting of Laxman Utekar's next with Vicky Kaushal in Indore. The star kid has already started prepping for her next pro-

ject. Her film 'Gaslight' will go on floors this month in Rajkot.

A source close to the actress revealed that Sara has been attending workshops for 'Gaslight'. The source said, "Sara has been currently prepping for 'Gaslight', before it goes on floors, near remote areas of Rajkot. She will be donning a completely different avatar from what we have seen before, which she wants to get into the skin of, before she reaches on sets."

